



Montana
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THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

October 2009

2010-11 USDA FOOD ORDERS

-IMPORTANT MESSAGE-

The USDA is currently working on upgrading the Electronic Commodity Ordering System (ECOS) with a new and improved system known as the Web-Based Supply Chain Management program or Web S-C-M. The program was scheduled to roll out on December 31, 2009 but has been delayed until February or March 2010.

To make the transition run smoothly the Office of Public Instruction must have all 2010-11 USDA (Commodity) Food orders in place by November 30, 2009.

We are working on the 2010-11 order form and hope to have it available for schools to place their orders online in October. **It is important that orders be placed as soon as possible once the order form is online.** Due to the short turnaround, the length of time available for placing orders will not be as long as in the past.

We will send notification to everyone in the Think Food, through MTLunchline, as well as the OPI Official E-mail. Watch for more information to come.



NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

National School Lunch Week is just around the corner on October 12-16. This year's basketball theme "All Star School Lunch" is promoting the importance of healthy eating and being active.



Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/allstar for toolkits, menus and celebration ideas to help get a head start on your National School Lunch Week celebration.

DEMAND FOR SCHOOL LUNCH

The number of school children receiving free and reduced-price lunches increased in most states during the 2008-09 school year reaching nearly 20 million nationwide.



Preliminary numbers from the USDA show Montana schools with 33,518 or 2.56 percent increase in free lunches and 10,316 or 8.56 percent increase in reduced-price meals. These figures were calculated from February 2008 to February 2009.

USDA FOODS SHIPMENT 4

There are some USDA foods still available for receipt on frozen Shipment 4. Items available are Cheese, Cheddar Shredded \$50.30, Frozen Corn

\$12.26, Pork Roasts \$45.16, Potato Wedges \$14.25 and Turkey Roasts \$47.63. (Prices listed are per case.)

To place your order for the additional USDA foods use the online Commodity Order form. The form can be found on the Food Distribution Web page at: www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.html.

Updated entitlement balances are also available on the Food Distribution Web page.

2009-10 SCHOOL REVIEWS

The following schools will be reviewed during the 2009-10 school year: Absarokee, Ayers, Big Timber, Billings, Bonner, Canyon Creek, Chester-JI, Choteau, Clinton, Conrad, Corvallis, Darby, Denton, Dupuyer, Dutton/Brady, Ekalaka, Elder Grove, Fairfield, Fishtail, Florence Crittenton, Grass Range, Greenfield, Golden Ridge, Hardin, Hays-Lodge Pole, Independent, Intermountain Children's Home, King Colony, Laurel, Lewistown, Lolo, Moore, Montana Youth Challenge, Northern Cheyenne, Potomac, Power, Pryor, Ramsay, Roy, RMDC, Scobey, Seeley Lake, Shodair, STEP, Stevensville, St. Mary's, St. Paul Mission, Sweet Grass County High School, Townsend, Trinity Lutheran, Turner, Valier, Victor, Yellowstone Boys' & Girls' Ranch, Youth Services, and Zurich.

Schools scheduled for review, will be sent a notification letter with complete instructions for preparing for the review. Schools are also expected to submit information for a nutrient analysis prior to the review. Instructions for the nutrient analysis

will be mailed with notification of the date of review.

The review schedule is flexible, so set dates for the reviews are not available at this time. Notification letters and instructions will be mailed one month prior to the review date.



The OPI School Nutrition Specialists look forward to visiting your school to offer guidance and answer any questions you may have.

If you have questions, please call School Nutrition Programs at (406) 444-2501.

COOK SMART TO HELP STUDENTS EAT SMART

This Team Nutrition workshop for food service managers/cooks and assistants will provide training on food preparation skills to lower fat, sugar, sodium and increase fiber, flavor and eye appeal to menu items. The workshop will also provide menu planning tips for meeting the Dietary Guidelines for Americans in school meals, a la carte programs and snacks.

Two regional trainings will be held on October 15, 2009, in Ronan and Pryor. The workshop time is 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information visit:

www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/currentnews.html.

If you have questions contact Katie Bark by phone at (406) 994-5641 or by e-mail at kbark@mt.gov.

***Fast Food:** The average American spends 27 minutes a day on food preparation.*